(c) and (d) Due to constraint of resources and *inter-se* priority, it has been decided not to consider declaration of any more new national highway for the time being.

Conversion of Stateway No. 24 as a National Highway in Gujarat

2718. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal of the State Government of Gujarat for conversion of the State Highway No. 24 joining Rajkot-Morvi NH 8 A and 8B and to extend up to Navlakhi port (109 Kms.) into National Highway is under consideration of the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) by when the said highway will be declared as a National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Sanctioning of Road and Bridge Projects in Punjab

2719. SHRl LAJPAT RAl : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are planning to sanction the important roads and oridges projects and proposed by government of Punjab under E&D programme; and

(b) if so, by when these projects will be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) ; (a) No, Sir. However the correct name of the programme is E. and I.

(b) Does not arise.

Maintenance of Roads in Punjab

2720. SHRI LAJPAT RAI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the additional roads requested to be declared strategic roads by the State Government of Punjab have been so declared by the Central Government; if not, by when these roads would be declared as strategic roads; and